

C H A T H A M C O U N T Y - S A V A N N A H

METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

"Planning the Future - Respecting the Past"

MEMORANDUM-

DATE: MARCH 14, 2017

TO: THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH

FROM: METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: MPC RECOMMENDATION

PETITION REFERENCED:

Petition to Rezone Property
Savannah River Landing Land JV, LLC, Petitioner
MMA/PSP Savannah River Landing, LLC, Owner
Harold Yellin (HunterMacLean), Agent

Northeast corner of East President St & Gen. McIntosh Blvd (generally)

Aldermanic District: 1 (Johnson)

County Commission District: 3 (Lockett)

Property Identification Numbers: 37 parcels (See zoning map for all PINs)

File No. 17-000452-ZA

MPC ACTION: Approval of the request to

rezone the subject property from a PUD-MXU (Planned Unit Development-Mixed Use) zoning classification to a proposed Planned Unit Development (Savannah River Landing PUD) zoning

classification.

MPC STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the request to rezone the subject property from a PUD-MXU (Planned Unit Development-Mixed Use) zoning classification to a proposed Planned Unit Development (Savannah River Landing PUD) zoning classification.

MEMBERS PRESENT: 10 + Chairman

Tanya Milton, Chairman
James Overton, Vice Chairman
Joseph Welch, Secretary
Shedrick Coleman
Travis Coles
Ellis Cook
Joseph Ervin
Lacy Manigault

Timothy Mackey Lee Smith Tom Woiwode

PLANNING COMMISSION VOTE: Approve Staff Recommendation (10-1)

APPROVAL Votes: 10	DENIAL Votes: 1	ABSENT
Milton	Overton	Hernandez
Welch		Suthers
Cook		Woods
Coleman		
Coles		
Ervin		
Mackey		
Manigault		
Smith		
Woiwode		

Interim Executive Director

Respectfully submitt

/jh

Enclosure

cc Dyanne C. Reese, Clerk of Council
Brooks Stillwell, City Attorney
Lester B. Johnson, Assistant City Attorney
Jennifer Herman, Assistant City Attorney
Beth Barnes, Department of Inspections



CHATHAM COUNTY-SAVANNAH

METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

"Planning the Future - Respecting the Past"

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah

FROM:

The Planning Commission

DATE:

March 14, 2017

SUBJECT:

Petition to Rezone Property

Savannah River Landing Land JV, LLC, Petitioner MMA/PSP Savannah River Landing, LLC, Owner

Harold Yellin (HunterMacLean), Agent

Northeast corner of East President St & Gen. McIntosh Blvd (generally)

Aldermanic District: 1 (Johnson)

County Commission District: 3 (Lockett)

Property Identification Numbers: 37 parcels (See zoning map for all PINs)

File No. 17-000452-ZA

Issue:

A request to rezone an approximate 56-acre site from a PUD-MXU (Planned Unit Development-Mixed Use) zoning classification to a proposed Planned Unit Development (Savannah River Landing PUD) zoning classification.

Background:

The subject site is located east of the Historic District and is generally bounded by General McIntosh Boulevard to west, Truman Parkway to the east, the Savannah River to the north and President Street to the south. Presently, the site is undeveloped; however, streets and infrastructure have been installed.

The existing PUD-MXU district was approved for the property in 2004 and 2006. At the time of the rezoning, the attached "civic" master plan was also approved. The plan emphasizes the "Block Plan." According the plan, "[t]he single most important defining element of the Civic Master Plan is the street and block plan, connecting the large open property to the historic patterns of the City of Savannah. The street and block plan organizes the site, provides public access to the waterfront, respects view corridors, improves circulation, and creates small blocks to accommodate a range of uses and open spaces. It is the bases for the official mapping of streets, parks and other public spaces that will shape the future of the public realm." The plan also provides guiding principles and minimal development standards for streets, streetscapes, parking, public spaces and

building placement, height and materials. The plan intended to provide for fine-grained development, not unlike the Historic District, but with greater flexibility.

According to the petitioner's application, the reason cited for the creation and rezoning to a specific PUD is to "[c]reate [a] comprehensive and predictable land planning guide for future development" of the property. The PUD request also includes a revised master plan that is attached. The proposal maintains the block plan but allows for larger blocks to accommodate larger building footprints. Open space, to include the possibility of plazas, parks and other public areas is also emphasized.

The rezoning of this property to a PUD would be subject to the approval of the proposed Savannah River Landing PUD by the Mayor and Aldermen. The PUD text will also be on the City Council agenda as a text amendment (File No. 17-000455-ZA).

Facts and Findings:

- 1. **Public Notice:** As required by the City of Savannah Zoning Ordinance, all property owners within 300 feet of the subject property were sent notices of the proposed rezoning on February 27, 2017. Public notice was also posted in various locations around the site. As of March 14, staff received two public inquiries regarding this petition. A letter from one citizen is attached.
- 2. **Existing Zoning and Development Pattern:** The land uses and zoning districts surrounding the subject site include:

Location	Land Use	Zoning
North	Savannah River	I-H [1]
South	Vacant Parcel / President Street / Vacant parcels	I-L [2]
East	Canal / Railway / Truman Pkwy East Coast Terminal	I-H / I-L
West	General McIntosh Boulevard/ Marriott Riverfront Hotel	B-B [3] / B-C [4]

- [1] Heavy Industrial
- [2] Light Industrial
- [3] Bayfront-Business
- [4] Community Business

3. Existing PUD-MXU Zoning District:

- a. **Intent of the PUD-MXU District:** The intent and purpose of the PUD-MXU district is to provide quality development through unified planning and establishment of context-sensitive design principles.
- b. Allowed Uses: The following uses are permitted:

Use Category	Uses	
Residential	Single-family row houses; Multi-family, including townhomes, condominiums and apartments; Upper story residential	
Civic	College, university; Congregate care home (over 15 people); Day care center (over 18 people); Day care home (7-18 people); Museum; Library; Places of worship; Public uses; Schools (K-12); Special needs housing; Technical, trade or business school; Minor Utility	
Office	General office; Medical office	
Retail and Services Use	Artist studio, gallery; Bar, nightclub, tavern; Hotel; Inn; Hostel; Package alcohol sales; Recreation, indoor and outdoor; Restaurant with or without alcohol sales; General retail; Neighborhood retail; General service; Neighborhood service; Short-term vacation rental;	
Special Uses	The Planning Commission can recommend any list not listed as a "special use" to the Mayor and Aldermen. Also, a drive-in or drive-thru must be approved by the Mayor and Aldermen as a special use.	

c. **Development Standards:** The development standards for the PUD-MXU are based, partially, on the standards that appeared on the attached master plan approved at the time of rezoning. The master plan was designed to serve as an extension of downtown, with a similar development pattern and emphasis of small blocks, street connections and streetscapes, including minimum sidewalk and tree lawn widths. Basic design principles and minimal development standards were created to guide future development.

Density was approved at no more than 100 dwelling units per gross acre. Each block on the master plan identified the maximum permitted building height. Lots were to be a minimum of 1,000 square feet with a minimum lot width of 20 feet. Build-to lines were shown on the plan—typically, zero to 5 feet. And, buildings were to have access points at least every 50 feet to 100 feet, depending on the building type, to encourage greater street level activity. These basic principles were intended to encourage a

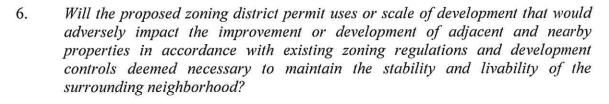
more organic approach to development, not unlike how development and redevelopment has occurred in the nearby Historic District.

4. Proposed Savannah River Landing PUD Zoning District:

- a. **Proposed Intent of the PUD District:** "The Savannah River Landing Planned Unit Development ("PUD") is hereby established to master plan and to develop property for commercial, residential and mixed use purposes. The PUD will provide standards for blocks and uses in order to provide a predictable level of design for the economic and aesthetic protection of the PUD."
- b. **Proposed Uses:** The proposed uses are similar to uses permitted in the PUD-MXU district but will allow additional uses, such as continuing care retirement facilities, assembly halls, hospitals and fuel stations.
- c. **Proposed Development Standards:** Development standards specific to the PUD and specific to blocks within the PUD have been created to allow for urban residential and non-residential building formats, with the flexibility to allow less urban building formats (i.e., larger setbacks). Maximum height is proposed by block and appears on the master plan.
- 5. Land Use Element: The Chatham County-Savannah Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map designates the subject property as Downtown Expansion. The Downtown Expansion classification is defined as: "Areas in close proximity to the Central Business District that are identified for growth of retail, office, entertainment, institutional, civic, and residential uses. This area is intended to be compatible and interconnected with the Downtown area and surrounding neighborhoods, while also accommodating new forms of urban development." The proposed zoning district, a PUD, would be consistent with the Downtown Expansion designation.
- 6. **Public Services and Facilities:** The property is served by the Chatham County Savannah Metropolitan Police Department, City of Savannah fire protection and by City of Savannah water and sanitary sewer.
- 7. **Transportation Network:** The subject site has frontage on East President Street and General McIntosh Boulevard. Both are identified as major arterial streets on the zoning ordinance street classification map.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

1.	Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would create traffic volumes, noise level, odor, airborne particulate matter, visual blight, reduce light or increased density of development that would adversely impact the livability or quality of life in the surrounding neighborhood?
	Yes NoX
2.	Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would adversely impact adjacent and nearby properties by rendering such properties less desirable and therefore less marketable for the type of development permitted under the current zoning?
	Yes NoX
3.	Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would generate a type or mix of vehicular traffic on a street or highway that is incompatible with the type of land use development along such street or highway?
	Yes NoX
4.	Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would generate greater traffic volumes at vehicular access points and cross streets than is generated by uses permitted under the current zoning district to the detriment of maintaining acceptable or current volume capacity (V/C) ratio for the streets that provide vehicular access to the proposed zoning district and adjacent and nearby properties?
	Yes NoX
5.	Will the proposed zoning district permit uses or scale of development that would require a greater level of public services such as drainage facilities, utilities, or safety services above that required for uses permitted under the current zoning district such that the provision of these services will create financial burden to the public?
	Yes NoX



Yes No X

7. Will the proposed zoning district permit development that is inconsistent with the comprehensive land use plan?

Yes No X

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Approve the petitioner's request as presented.
- 2. Deny the petitioner's request.
- 3. Deny the petitioner's request and approve an alternative classification.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

A rezoning to the proposed Savannah River Landing PUD would allow for the redevelopment of nearly 56 acres in a manner that is similar to but more flexible than the permitted uses and development standards of the Historic District to the west. The PUD is also consistent with the Chatham County-Savannah Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map designation of Downtown Expansion.

RECOMMENDATION:

Subject to the approval of the creation of the Savannah River Landing PUD district, **approval** of the request to rezone the subject property from a PUD-MXU (Planned Unit Development-Mixed Use) zoning classification to a proposed Planned Unit Development (Savannah River Landing PUD) zoning classification.

2-0006 -15-001,2-0006 -16-001 2-0006 -13-001,2-0006 -14-001 -005,-006,-007,-008,-009,-010 2-0006 -18-001,2-0006 -19-001 2-0006 -20-001,2-0006 -21-001 2-0006 -24-001,2-0006 -25-001 2-0006 -26-001,2-0006 -27-001 2-0006 -28-001,2-0006 -29-001 2-0006 -05-001,2-0006 -06-00 2-0006 -07-001,2-0006 -08-00 2-0006 -09-001,2-0006 -10-007 2-0006 -11-001,2-0006 -12-001 2-0006 -17-001,-002,-003,-004 -002,-003,-004,-005,-006,-007 Neighborhood: Hitch Village/ 2-0006 -22-001,-002,-003, 2-0006 -23-001,-002,-003 Commission District: 3 Aldermanic District: 1 Fred Wessels Area COUNTY 2-0006 -30-001 17-000452-ZA CHATHAM E PRESIDENT! ۵ GREENWOOD ST DA MORTZJAM RD OBECON THE TAVE AUBURN ST EGNINNETTEN IOWA ST UTAHST inch = 2,000 feet CAPITALST BEECHST BOLLINGST PENNSTLANIAAVE TONGVIE ELGIN ST DUVAL ST ALASKAST G07 E PRESIDENT S NINOLAND HALEST CRESCENT DR PRIVATE DRIVE NT THE BOO LAWTOWAVE FORRESTAVE SCREVENAVE _ conditional of E GWINNETT ST HARBOR ST GOEBEL AVE DULANYRD E DUFFY ST DAISYCT THIS MAP IS A COMPILATION OF INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND SCALES. IN MOST CASES THE INFORMATION HAS NOT BEEN FIELD VERIFIED. USE THIS MAP FOR GENERAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. HARBOR ST WINTER DR GRAND PRIZE OF AMERICA AVE MAGNER ST BEE KD ASH ST HELMKEN ST MASTICK ST MASTICK ST WAGANED OF WHAN WINDAY S YARAH EHENRYS EBOLTONILN EDUFFYST UNNAMED GRAYDONST COLLINS ST E PARK AVE RESERVE CIR SITE CEDAR ST WHEATON ST E HENRY LN C S E 32NO ST E 31ST UN E 31ST LIVE E ANDERSON LN S WOLFST RESERVE WAY JOE ST MATERS AVE HITCH DR ONE GO POS TE HOLOOUNA EL TO NINO NO SE AND AS OF SECULAR SECULA TR NOMANH EBOLTON ST. TS NOVA PAULSENST E PARK LN EDUFFYLM ERWERST FFACTORS WIT E WALDBURGST E BROUGHTON ST EBRYANST DELILAH'S WAY E34THST EANDERSON ST ECONGRESS ST E GWINNETT ST WBAYANST WBAYLW EBAYLN EBAYSTOP MIMBY DR E HUNTINGDON ST ELIBERTYST HARTRIDGE ST ESTATEST MYERNATIONAL DR EYORKLN E CHARLTON LN WAYNE SHACKELFORD BLUD F EJONES LN DE STORE OF STORE BUADITIOAVE MICOLL ST E HALL ST EBOLTONLIN E HARRIS ST LEGRAND ST REYNOLDS ST WHULLSTEHULLST THE INDUSTRIAL CO ROAD E 32NO ST HABERSHAM ST E36THST E36THST W BROUGHTON ST WOGLETHORPEAVE TINCOLN ST E34TH LN WSTATEST W PERRY ST E DUFFY ST WILLIAMSONST WYORKST E HENRY LN TS NOTYAGO TS TO BULL ST TS NOTYAGO TS NOTYAGO WLIBERTYST ABERCORN ST WBRYANIST E31STLW CI AMMYONY SI E 33RD LN E35THST E37THST WHITAKER ST TR GRANARA WPARKLN W ANDERSON ST W HENRY ST TS NNA TURNER BLVD JERFERSON ST W32NDST LOUISVILLE RO Waistst 15 17 W JONES ST W36THST BJ W 38TH ST W34THST W35TH ST Watthst BERRIENST TS MHAR MARNERSI TS YARANUORW MORRIS BROWN DR

MAP

1/27/2017

METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION 110 E. STATE ST. SAVANNAN, GA 31412-8246 PHONE 912-651-1440

RIVER

SAVANNAH

Neighborhood: Hitch Village/

Fred Wessels Area

2-0006 -05-001,2-0006 -06-00

256 Jan 6 SHAW

The

関係 関係

ENE. NOTE: **阿尔 HEREN** AS AS BEAG ASSESSMENT

-005,-006,-007,-008,-009,-010 2-0006 -07-001,2-0006 -08-00 2-0006 -09-001,2-0006 -10-00 2-0006 -11-001,2-0006 -12-001 2-0006 -13-001,2-0006 -14-00 2-0006 -15-001,2-0006 -16-00 2-0006 -17-001,-002,-003,-004

2-0006 -18-001,2-0006 -19-00 -002,-003,-004,-005,-006,-007

2-0006 -20-001,2-0006 -21-001

2-0006 -22-001,-002,-003,

2-0006 -26-001,2-0006 -27-001 2-0006 -24-001,2-0006 -25-00 2-0006 -23-001,-002,-003

2-0006 -28-001,2-0006 -29-001 2-0006 -30-001

1/27/2017

1 inch = 400 feet

THIS MAP IS A COMPILATION OF INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND SCALES. IN MOST CASES THE INFORMATION HAS NOT BEEN FIELD VERIFIED. USE THIS MAP FOR GENERAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.

CHATHAM COUNTY SAVANNAH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION 110 E. STATE ST. SAVANNAH, CA 31412-2246 PHONE 972-651-1440

METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION 110 E. STATE ST. SAVANHAN, GA 31412-8246 PHONE 912-651-1440 CHATHAM COUNTY . SAVANNAM -002,-003,-004,-005,-006,-007, 2-0006 -20-001,2-0006 -21-001, 2-0006 -22-001,-002,-003, 2-0006 -23-001,-002,-003 2-0006 -24-001,2-0006 -25-001 2-0006 -26-001,2-0006 -27-001 1/27/2017 2-0006 -07-001,2-0006 -08-001 2-0006 -09-001,2-0006 -10-001 2-0006 -11-001,2-0006 -12-001 2-0006 -13-001,2-0006 -14-001 2-0006 -15-001,2-0006 -16-001 2-0006 -28-001,2-0006 -29-001 2-0006 -30-001 -005,-006,-007,-008,-009,-010 2-0006 -05-001,2-0006 -06-001 2-0006 -17-001,-002,-003,-004 2-0006 -18-001,2-0006 -19-001 ZONING Neighborhood: Hitch Village/ Proposed property zoning: PUD-SAVANNAH RIVER Current property zoning MAP Commission District: 3 Aldermanic District: 1 Fred Wessels Area 2-0006 -01-007 17-000452-ZA is primarily: ANDING PUD-MX ۵ HARBOR 1 inch = 400 feet NAMURT S YRAA Ŧ HARE UNNAMED THIS MAP IS A COMPILATION OF INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND SCALES. IN MOST CASES THE INFORMATION HAS NOT BEEN FIELD VERIFIED. USE THIS MAP FOR GENERAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY. RIVER 王 SAVANNAH ᅼ **NESSELS - HITCH PUD** HITCH P-8-B JOEL MAH 8-8 COLBERY MC ALLISTER FOLEY HAJOGNAR CAIN

Conservation - Residential Commercial- Suburban Downtown- Expansion 17-000452-ZA Industry- Light Conservation Right of Way Open Water Tidal Marsh Transition Landfill Industry- Heavy ransportation/Communication/Utilit HARBOR NAMURT 8 YRRAH NAMURT 8 YRRAH Conservation UNNAMED Water RIVER Civic/Institutional SAVANNAH Water HITCH GENERAL MCINTOSI Traditional Commercial KNOX HAM JOET COLBERT Downtown FOLEY MC ALLISTER TASS HATOQNWA CAIN

AND USE FUTURE

Neighborhood: Hitch Village/ Commission District: 3 Aldermanic District: 1 Fred Wessels Area

Traditional Commercial

Traditional Neighborhood

Commercial- Neighborhood

Commercial- Regional

Commercial- Marine

Residential- Suburban Single Family Residential- Single Family

Planned Development Residential- General

Planned Campus

Agriculture/Forestry

Industry- Heavy

Civic/Institutional

■ Transportation/Communication/Utilit

Parks/Recreation

Surface Mine

AICO+Marsh AICO+Water

AICO+Right of Way AICO+Suburban Single Family Residential AICO+Industry- Light

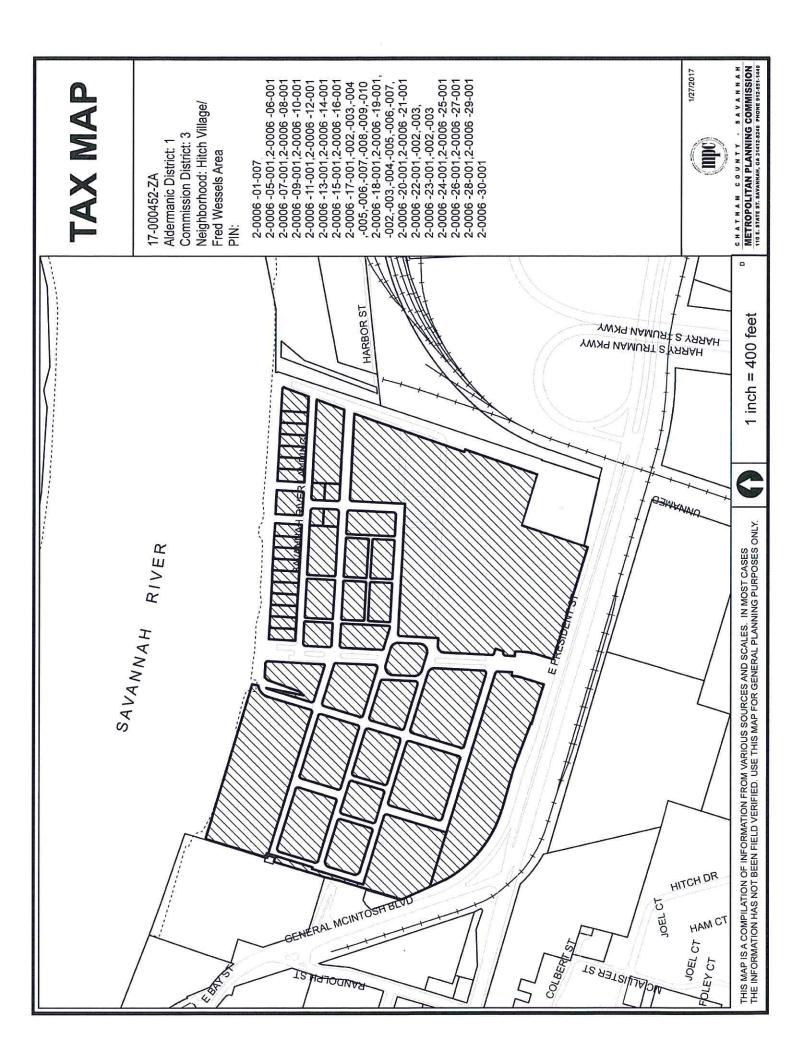


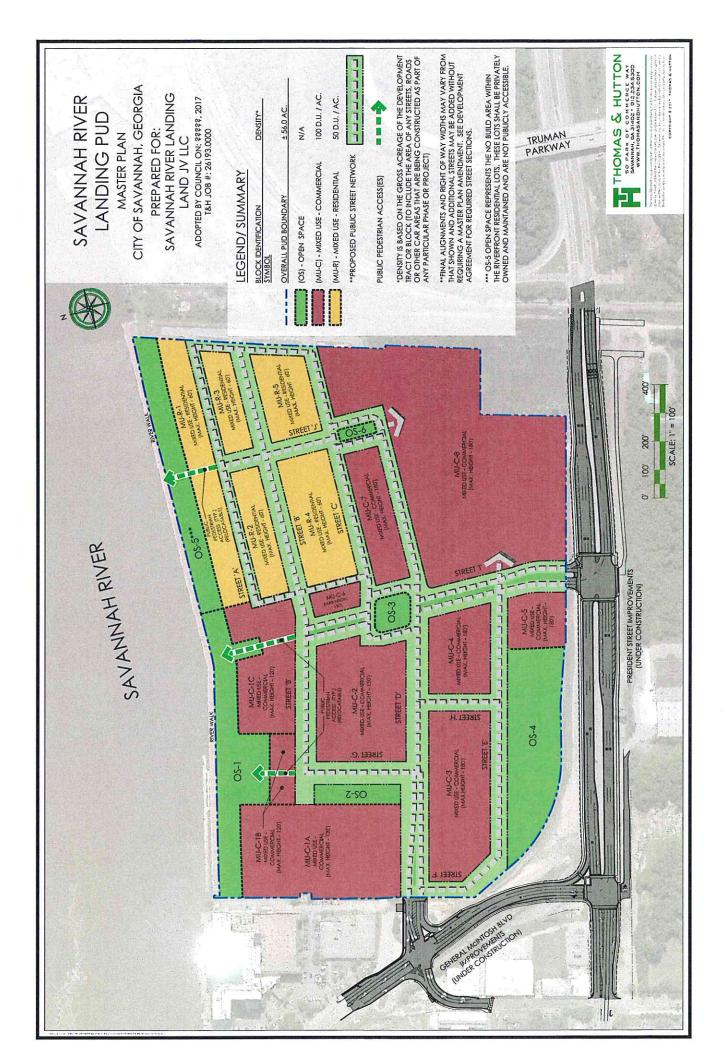
1/27/2017

CHATHAM COUNTY SAVANNAH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION 110 E. STATE ST. SAVANNAH, GA 31412-8246 PHONE 912-651-1440 ٥

1 inch = 400 feet

THIS MAP IS A COMPILATION OF INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND SCALES. IN MOST CASES THE INFORMATION HAS NOT BEEN FIELD VERIFIED. USE THIS MAP FOR GENERAL PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.





Compatible Buildings
Architectural randards should follow to the exent
possible the Manual for Development in Savannah's
Historic Davies.

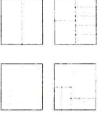
Build-To Lines and Enrancer Continuity of building fronting products a stear of defined uper in the public realm. Build-To Lites are entablated within each book designating a tempt for required building place ment according to the intended use. Building to the access from the build-To Line with a required building to the access from the build-To Line with a required building from the minimum oraxions on each book. Bucked in creal uses have the more permetable building fromt with minimum access every 50 for the door intended for reddential or Larger commercial user prounds from the minimum access every 50 to 100 feet.

Highs and Mane Conviewe, of bailthing beights and mas exters viola continuing in the serverage and the define. Marinum heights measured in sortice have been established in each block, taging from 4 to 10 works. A pathing level is counted as a story. Building ficials over 60 feet in words about the broken down vertically no relate their mass and center a human celle. Horizontal articulation of brildings should include. an identifiable base, body and cap

tional manony materials such as brick or true trucco. March school for electric for produce visual transter and human scale. On tale buildings froming the water, the human scale. On tale buildings froming the water, the colors of surfaces above 4 stories shall be darker and visually recessive in order on met demining the skyline from the tree. Color and Texture: Building walls should be of tradi-

Mixed Uses & Subdivision of Blocks
Blocks should be subdivided to allow for a diverse range
of building topes and hot sizer. Primary uses may be
mixed within blocks and within blocks made within blocks and within blocks in caried configurations: Subdivided within blocks in caried configurations: Subdivided within blocks in caried configurations: Subdivided blocks shall allow for each lot to have
a minimum of 20 feet of intonge on a primary uses or
a three and a minimum of 10 test of 1,000 square feet.

Example of BLOCK SUBDIVISION



SOUMANC STREET TITE

HT MI. BUID-TO LINE MINIMAN ENTRY

C STREET CONNECTION

Bund-To Live with From

PEDESTRAN PATHS AND PUBLIC SPACES GALLIN, PARKS AND TREE LANDS

MM ==

information measured to an analysis of the state of the s

President Seven 4 1. Project +oN 0 100 2 i (c) (w) 1 8 6 **6**] Lat her horn: Raba Sam Parented President Street Blur Walk 21 @i:

February 6, 2006

East Riverfront Streets and Public Space CIVIC MASTER PLAN

EORGIA G AVANNAH

The single most important defining element of the Crist Matter Plan is the verset and shock plan, consecting this large open property to the historic pattern or the Crist Okasanah. The treets and blood plan organizes the site projekt public access to the warefront, respect view conduct, improve citedation, and creates mail bloods to accommodate a range of uses and open specie. It is the bosis for the official mapping of treets, pale, and other public spaces that will happe the froure of the public relation.

Streets and Parking

A nework of interconnected treen provides circulation throughout the arts. Distrest extension are compared to 12 foot travel lanes on mey ways street; and foddares are minimal and on our event agent test. Parallel pathing to provide oul streets on relative to was one sides. Farallel pathing to privile do not large our either town to worke. Farallel pathing is accommended in 8x 20 freet bays. Additional off-arter pathing may be provided in ruffee (so with appropriate Indicaping on in investment deels. Off-warer pathing may be provided in wither loss with appropriate Indicaping on in investment deels.

Sidewalks and Street Trees

pomores on continuous idevalls on all attest pomores connection and polentinous development. Salewals are generally 5 to 6 feet in width anging up 10 lifet along trail finings. Street trees are provided in tree bens along all primary and secondary street. Tree how are 6 to 13 feet in width and are located between the idevalls and the treet. Regularly speed and algorithment regressional manner sale, outside yield and grade after trees provide human rack, outside moning traffic. Trees should be Live Oaks at 40 to 50 feet interask or other species comparible to those found in the sity senter.

Public Spaces

A variety of paths are created with an emphasis on the irretion. The extention of the river walls is an integral element in connecting these spaces. Paths should be designed to accommodate a variety of passive user. Multiple focal points should be developed which may include a pulyground, amplituhenter, fournairs, or connection in water rared.

Parkens



Metropolitan Planning Commission City of Savannah

Savannah Development & Renewal Authority Savannah River Landing, LLC The Ambling Companies

Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co. Sottile & Sottile Urban Design

TO: Interim Director, Metropolitan Planning Commission

SUBJECT: Protest of Petition to Rezone Property, Savannah River Landing, 14 March 2017; Protest Proposed Text Amendment to Create New Savannah River Landing PUD

I, a resident of Savannah, am writing to express my concern about the proposed rezoning of the Savannah River Landing parcel from PUD-MXU to PUD and the proposed PUD Text Amendment; the development plan that accompanies the requests; and the process that led up to the 14 March 2017 hearing before the Metropolitan Planning Commission. I am aware of the long and painful history associated with this very important parcel, and the desire for everyone to get on with it – but decisions made on this development will impact Savannah for the next hundred years or more. So each decision made that brings the proposed development closer to fruition - including this proposed zoning change - must be done in full sunshine. So far, that has not been the case.

Proposed Rezoning and Text Amendment: The PUD-MXU zoning for this area was deemed appropriate ten years ago, as was the accompanying site plan at the time. In my view, the new site plan, despite the petitioner's verbiage to the contrary, throws out most of the original in favor of many high-rise buildings; barely two squares will exist instead of the original six; virtually total blockage of river views by waterside buildings instead of road and square access in the original; river access from the interior of the development only through three tunnel-like features; only two vehicular entry/exit points instead of the previous four; no real connection with the Landmark Historic District transportation grid. The new plan resembles a gated community and will tower over Savannah much as Rosslyn, Virginia does to Washington, DC. This new zoning proposal and the accompanying plan barely gives lip service to the wonderful Oglethorpe plan in the adjacent Historic District, instead trying to cram in as many high-rise structures and other buildings as possible along with erasing river views from virtually any interior location.

Process: While the fact that the parcel apparently was sold and was to be redeveloped was public knowledge for awhile, the actual details – the proposed zoning change and its accompanying development plan- was not on MPC's website until 13 March, exactly one day before this hearing. That is just plain wrong. The public deserves at least some time to digest this heretofore unseen plan for comment. Second, the letter of the law was apparently upheld when property owners within 300 feet of the parcel (and in various locations - not further identified - around the site) were notified 27 February of the proposed zoning change, and according to staff, only one owner responded by March 9. I submit the spirit of the ordinance was violated in that there are virtually no residential property owners within 300 feet, and only a handful of commercial ones. So the notifications were made available to essentially nobody. The bottom line for me: so far, this project has moved forward seemingly deliberately under the public radar until we are now confronted with – and largely unprepared for - a hearing within one day of the petitions' public release.

You, among the most important governmental stewards of Savannah, should not let what will be billed as the urgency of the moment change the face of Savannah - for the worse — essentially forever. In the future, at a minimum, for proposed projects of a certain footprint or dollar amount, you should demand that the public be given at least two weeks' notice, complete with the planning detail that will be presented at the hearing. Projects of this magnitude are too important for the taxpaying public to be blindsided as we are on this one. This Savannah resident is counting on you.

Thank you for reading and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Rosenwald 504 E. McDonough St. Savannah GA 31401

AN ORDINANCE To Be Entitled

AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE CERTAIN PROPERTY FROM ITS PRESENT PUD-MXU (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT-MIXED USE) ZONING CLASSIFICATION TO A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (SAVANNAH RIVER LANDING PUD) ZONING CLASSIFICATION; TO REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

<u>BE IT ORDAINED</u> by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, Georgia, in a regular meeting of Council assembled and pursuant to lawful authority thereof:

<u>SECTION 1</u>: The following described property be rezoned from its present PUD-MXU zoning classification to a PUD (Savannah River Landing PUD) zoning classification:

Commencing from a point [X: 992198.228534 Y: 757253.996695], located at the approximate intersection of the centerlines of General McIntosh Boulevard and Harbor Street,

Thence proceeding in a SE direction [S 69-28-37 E] along the approximate centerline of Harbor Street for approximately 277.498 ft. to a point [X: 992458.11389Y: 757156.710579], said point being, THE POINT OF BEGINNING

Thence proceeding in a NE direction [N 17-7-21 E] along a line for approximately 642.232 ft. to a point [X: 992647.197456 Y: 757770.477423],

Thence proceeding in an SE direction along the approximate high water of the southern bank of the Savannah River for approximately 2,184.66 ft. to a point, [X: 994748.995131 Y: 757417.446839]

Thence proceeding in a SW direction [S 18-58-52 W] along a line for approximately 1,232.858 ft. to a point,

Thence proceeding in a NW direction [N 73-49-20 W] along a line for approximately 368.953 ft. to a point,

Thence proceeding in a SW direction [S 18-21-17 W] along a line for approximately 300.411 ft. to a point,

Thence proceeding in a NW direction [N 73-4-2 W] along a line for approximately 447.12 ft. to a point,

Thence proceeding in a SW direction [S 16-20-24 W] along a line for approximately 73.03 ft. to a point, said point being located on the approximate centerline of the right-of-way of President Street Extension,

Thence proceeding in a NW direction along the approximate centerline of the right-of-way of President Street Extension for approximately 1001.18 ft. to a point,

Thence proceeding in a NW direction along a line for approximately 18.39 ft. to a point [X: 992473.84172 Y: 756421.224754],

Thence proceeding in a NW direction along the centerline of General McIntosh Boulevard for approximately 385.01 ft. to a point, [X: 992346.248497 Y: 756784.486429],

Thence proceeding in a NE direction [N 16-43-38 E] along a line for approximately 388.67 ft. to a point, [X: 992458.11389Y: 757156.710579], said point being, THE POINT OF BEGINNING

PIN Nos.: 2-0006-01-007; 2-0006-05-001; 2-0006-06-001; 2-0006-07-001; 2-0006-08-001; 2-0006-09-001; 2-0006-10-001; 2-0006-11-001; 2-0006-12-001; 2-0006-13-001; 2-000-14-001; 2-0006-15-001; 2-0006-16-001; 2-0006-17-001, -002, -003, -004, -005, -006, -007, -008, -009, -010; 2-0006-18-001; 2-0006-19-001, -002, -003, -004, -005, -006, -007; 2-0006-20-001; 2-0006-21-001; 2-0006-22-001, -002, -003; 2-0006-23-001, -002, -003; 2-0006-24-001; 2-0006-25-001; 2-0006-26-001; 2-0006-27-001; 2-0006-28-001; 2-0006-29-001; 2-0006-30-001.

SECTION 3: That the requirements of Section 8-3182(f)(2) of said Code	and the law in such
cases made and provided has been satisfied. An opportunity for a public hea	ring was afforded
anyone having an interest or property right which may have been affected by this z	oning amendment,
said notice being published in the Savannah Morning News, on theday or	f,
2017, a copy of said notice being attached hereto and made a part hereof.	

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall be effective as of the date hereof.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED:	, 2017.
Control of the contro	• *************************************

ATTEST:	
CLEBK OF COLINCII	

CLERK OF COUNCIL FILE NO.: 17-000452-ZA